



California Shade

*A Newsletter From The California Department of
Forestry and Fire Protection Urban Forestry Program*

CDF Reaches Out to Urban Homeowners

Home shows bring in homeowners, and homeowners are a key audience for urban and community forestry outreach. On June 2, 2005 CDF's Urban Forestry Program set up a booth display at the Anaheim Home and Garden Show to share with homeowners the benefits of wise urban forestry management in their communities.

Forestry Assistant II John Melvin coordinated the project. He worked with event staff to secure the space, donated by the show's organizers. CDF employees and volunteers staffed the booth, which had video presentations, displays and plenty of literature. "We gave away well over 3,000 Tree City USA bulletins and probably at least 1,000 pieces of Fire Safe California information," John said.



Forester I Eric Oldar staffs the booth while a homeowner browses through the pamphlets and other display items.

Homeowners were invited to take pamphlets and posters with topics ranging from Tree City USA to urban wood utilization. *Going Green*, a new urban forestry video production from the USFS and the new Fire Safe California video were

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Hot topics

The International Society of Arboriculture has released *Tree Worker Safety*, the second CD in its interactive training series. Use of this CD and completion of quiz questions can earn Continuing Education Units. For more information visit www.isa-arbor.com



The Local Government Environmental Assistance Network (LGEAN) partnered with American Forests is making free CD-ROM copies of *Seeing Green With Trees: The Economic and Environmental Benefits of Urban Forests* available to the public. The CD includes an audio/video recording of the original webcast as well as the individual PowerPoint presentations. Visit the LGEAN web site at: www.lgean.org

Proposition 12 2005-2006 grants have been revised. Look for new simplified grant applications at the UFEI web site at www.UFEI.calpoly.edu this summer. Grants for 2005 will include: Green Trees for The Golden State with up to \$50,000 available for community tree planting, and Leaf-It-To-Us with up to \$5,000 for tree planting projects at California schools.

A Tree-mendous Farewell

CDF Says Goodbye To One Of It's Urban Forestry Cornerstones as Eric Oldar Retires After 30 Years Of Service

In an email notice to his co-workers Eric Oldar wrote "As of June 30th, I will be retiring from CDF after 30 years of service in the primary field of urban and community forestry to the state of California."

We had heard the rumor that Eric Oldar was retiring at the end of June, and some of us had even spoken with Eric about his retirement. But reading his goodbye letter made it more real somehow, and we here in the CDF urban forestry program are now faced with the challenge of covering the many projects that Eric juggled on a daily basis. His endless energy will be hard to match, and his wealth of knowledge in the field of urban forestry will be sorely missed.

"I am always challenged to find innovative ways of engaging our states' urban areas in better management of our community forests through fostering collaboration, cooperation, and innovations in community forest management," he said. "My greatest challenge lies in redefining the public's image of urban forests from aesthetic amenities to that of a sustainable working forest reflecting multiple values and benefits".

Eric has been involved with California's state urban forestry program since 1978. As a Regional Field Specialist for the Southern California area, he has played a facilitating role in every aspect of the Department's delivery of community forestry programs to the 35 million residents of California. He has been instrumental in the coordination of education and technology transfer in the urban

and community forestry fields and has worked hard to foster development of California's new urban hardwood utilization program. He has been integral to the success of projects such as SelectTree, a free online tree selection database, and Professionals for Tomorrow, where CDF grant money provided college seniors with real-world opportunities to use their newly acquired natural resource training.

John Melvin, a forestry assistant II with CDF, has worked along side of Eric as an urban forester in the CDF Riverside unit for three and a half years.

"I have no end of respect and admiration for Eric and what he has accomplished in his career," said Melvin. "I hope to be able to achieve a fraction of the progress he has made for our field during my own career as an urban forester."

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available for viewing. Multiple charts and photos were displayed showing the impacts and benefits of community urban forestry programs.

John spoke with landscape architects about collaboration with local tree groups and the CDF Urban Forestry Program. He approached manufacturers of furniture and hardwood floors about urban wood utilization and markets, and passed out information on CDF's Project Learning Tree program to school teachers.

"Overall," he said, "this was a great success. I have secured another booth offer for a similar show at the same venue in October."



Field Day In Balboa Park

The Professional Tree Care Association (PTCA) has set its 16th annual Seminar and Field Day for August 19-20 in Balboa Park, San Diego. The seminar on August 19 includes Mature Tree Pruning and Visual Tree Assessment with Bruce Hagen, Forester I, of CDF, Blue Oaks and Climate with David Stahle of the University of Arkansas, Arboriculture Law with Randall Stamen, ISA Certified Arborist and Attorney at Law, Eucalyptus Insect Pest Management with Dr. Tim Paine from University of California, Riverside and more.

The field day on Saturday will have hands-on demonstrations of the Swedish Increment Borer and Visual Tree Assessment, climbing workshop with Martin Morales, exhibits on the latest products and technology, and many more activities too numerous to list. A special barbecue lunch is also planned for this event.

For more information, contact PTCA at (619) 443-6202 or visit their online web site at www.ptcasandiego.org.

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